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Soybeans

NEEDED
for
DEFENSE

1951

**United States
Department of Agriculture
Production and Marketing
Administration**

SOYBEANS—ABOUT SAME AS LAST YEAR

Farmers Asked to Repeat 1950 Record

This year farmers for the country as a whole are being asked to plant soybean acreages that will total only slightly less than the record acreage seeded to this crop in 1950. Continued high production of soybeans is needed to provide oil for food and industrial uses and high-protein meal for livestock feed, and to meet critical export demands.

Although needs for soybeans are great, producers are also being asked to increase acreages of corn, wheat, and cotton. Corn and soybeans are grown in the same areas and, in some instances, cotton and soybeans. Producers should, where possible, maintain their 1950 soybean plantings while increasing corn and cotton acreage. There is a pressing need for building feed-grain reserves and increasing the supply of cotton. But maintenance of the present production of soybeans is also vital.

The following guide figures show the desired harvested acreage of soybeans for 1951, compared with the acreage planted in 1949 and 1950, for a selected number of States.

State	<u>Soybeans</u>		Acre- age Needed in 1951	Per- centage 1951 is of 1950
	Acreage Planted in—			
	1949	1950		
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Ohio.....	858	1,056	1,100	104
Indiana.....	1,442	1,591	1,600	101
Illinois.....	3,287	3,948	3,750	95
Michigan.....	66	117	130	111
Minnesota.....	709	1,057	1,100	104
Iowa.....	1,340	1,921	1,900	99
Missouri.....	857	1,191	1,160	97
Kansas.....	237	359	363	101
North Carolina..	264	301	300	100
Kentucky.....	119	108	135	125
Tennessee.....	125	150	165	110
Mississippi.....	108	282	250	89
Arkansas.....	291	556	400	72
Other.....	453	654	660	101
Total.....	10,156	13,291	13,013	98

Estimated Soybean Supplies

If 13 million acres of soybeans are harvested this fall, total production, with average yields, will be about 5 percent less than the 1950 crop. Except for the need for higher corn and cotton acreages a larger soybean acreage would be desirable in 1951. This emphasizes the importance of meeting or exceeding the national guide acreage. It emphasizes also the importance of producing the maximum possible tonnage from the acreage available.

Good Practices Should Be Followed

Sound methods of farming will result in assuring that soybeans planted this spring will provide the largest possible supply:

1. Use seed varieties best suited locally for oil production.
2. Be sure that seed is of high germination, properly treated, and inoculated when needed.
3. Follow good cropping practices to increase yields.
4. Plan timely seed harvest to avoid weather damage and loss.
5. Reduce storage losses.

Loans and Purchase Agreements Protect Price

Price supports have been announced for the 1951 soybean crop and will average \$2.45 per bushel. This is 90 percent of the January 15 parity price for soybeans and compares with \$2.06 average support price for the 1950 crop. Loans and purchase agreements will be used in carrying out price support and these will be available to producers from harvest until January 31, 1952.

In participating in the 1951 agricultural defense production program, producers should not overlook the possibility that high levels of production may be needed from their farms for a period of several years. With this in mind, farmers should aim at planting a maximum acreage of needed crops and at the same time maintaining a good balance of conservation activity to safeguard future production. Assistance in working out the 1951 production and conservation plan can be obtained at the county PMA committee office.

Produce what is needed in 1951 and keep the land in shape for the long pull.

WE MAY NEED MORE NEXT YEAR

